

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

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AMEMBASSY BONN

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USDOCOSOUTH

S E C R E T MADRID 2262

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, US, SP, NATO

SUBJECT: US-SPANISH NEGOTIATIONS -ROUND 5, MADRID, APR 2-4.

REF MADRID 2222 (NOTAL)

1. PLENARY SESSION APR 3 DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO
FURTHER DISCUSSION OF COMBINED STAFF CONCEPT AND
USG RESPONSE TO GEN. GUTIERREZ MELLADO'S "QUID"
PROPOSALS PRESENTED AT LAST ROUND.

2. ON COMBINED STAFF, SPANISH MILITARY EXPRESSED
CONCERN AS TO HOW PLANS OF US/SPANISH STAFF WOULD
"INTEGRATE" WITH THOSE OF NATO IN GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF
OVERLAP. GEN. GUTIERREZ MELLADO OBSERVED ON THIS POINT
THAT, SINCE NATO PLANS MAY NOT BE SHARED WITHOUT NATO
APPROVAL, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT SPANISH/US
DEFENSE PLANS ARE COMPATIBLE WITH NATO PLANS AIMED AT
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MEETING THE SAME WARSAW PACT THREAT AT SEA AND IN THE AIR.

IF THE NATO PLANS ARE SIMPLY TO BE SUPERIMPOSED ON THE SPANISH/US PLANNING, WITHOUT SPANISH PARTICIPATION, THE THE ENTIRE COMBINED PLANNING PROCESS WOULD HAVE NO VALUE.

3. US SID SAID COORDINATION OF PLANNING WOULD BE OUR AIM ALSO, BUT MCCLOSKEY CAUTIONED THAT ALL OF OUR DISCUSSION IN THIS AREA WAS AD REFERENDUM AND CONDITIONED ON CONTINUATION OF FULL USG USE OF CURRENT FACILITIES.

4. SPANISH SIDE PROMISED FURTHER PRESENTATION ON FACILITIES (AGENDA ITEM 3) ON FRIDAY.

5. MCCLOSKEY OPENED USG RESPONSE ON SPANISH "QUID" PROPOSALS BY NOTING IT IS CLEAR FROM ITS ACTIONS AND ATTITUDES THAT THE CONGRESS INTENDS TO CONTINUE TO REDUCE THE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE. HE WENT ON TO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS COMFORTED BY REPEATED STATEMENTS BY GOS OFFICIALS OF SPAIN'S ABILITY TO PAY FROM ITS OWN RESOURCES FOR THE BULK OF MAJOR WEAPONS NEEDS TO SATISFY ARMED FORCES MODERNIZATION.

6. BERGOLD FOLLOWED WITH POINT-BY-POINT ANSWER TO GUTIERREZ MELLADO PER PREPARED TALING POINTS PAPER. HE EMPHASIZED THE LIMITS ON GRANT AID AND THE NON-AVAILABILITY OF EXCESS EQUIPMENT OR LEND-LEASE ARRANGEMENTS, EMPHASIZING TO SPANISH THAT SOME FORM OF CREDIT ARRANGEMENT, HOPEFULLY AT SOMETHING LESS THAN THE COMMERCIAL RATE OF INTEREST, OFFIERED BEST PROSPECT FOR SATISFYING SPANISH NEEDS. BERGOLD POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT USG FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO BE MORE SPECIFIC GIVEN LACK OF SPECIFICITY IN SPANISH PROPOSALS.

7. SPANISH ASKED QUESTIONS ON POSSIBILITY OF GRANT ASSISTANCE, INTEREST RATES, AND TERMS OF AMORTIZATION OF CREDITS. IN RESPONSE, US DEL SAID GRANT AID VERY UNLIKELY AND PROMISED TO RESPOND LATER RE RATES OF INTEREST AND PERIOD OF LOANS.

8. SPANISH PROPOSED AND WE AGREED TO MEETING OF MILITARY MEMBERS IN AFTERNOON IN LIEU OF PLENARY. IN TWO-SECRET

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HOOR SESSION, MILITARY DELEGATIONS DISCUSSED DEFENSE COOPERATION ENVISAGED UNDER NEW AGREEMENT WITH EMPHASIS ON COORDINATION WITH US-EUROPEAN COMMAND AND NATO AND WARTIME ROLE OF SPANISH ARMED FORCES.

9. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT SPANISH MILITARY HAVE NOT GONE VERY FAR IN DEVELOPING THEIR MODERNIZATION PLANS, HENCE THE VAGUENESS OF GEN. GUTIERREZ MELLADO'S PRESEN-

TATION LAST ROUND. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE "GAP" THEY
REFERRED TO BETWEEN RESOURCES AND NEEDS IS AS UNQUANTI-
FIED IN THEIR MINDS AS IN OURS.
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